

1



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/395,480	09/14/1999	LAURA J. BUTLER	200780	6086
45979	7590	11/16/2004	EXAMINER	
PERKINS COLE LLP P. O. BOX 1247 SEATTLE, WA 98111-1247			TRAN, TAM D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2676	

DATE MAILED: 11/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DT

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/395,480

Applicant(s)

BUTLER, LAURA J.

Examiner

Tam D Tran

Art Unit

2676

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 July 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 21-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Palmer et al. (USPN 6292166 B1), hereinafter simply Palmer.

2. In regard to claim 21, 35, Palmer teaches a method of supporting true color, 24bpp, graphics in a multipoint data conference, see col.1 lines 5-16, col.6 lines 18-37, comprising the steps of: examining color depth capabilities of conference participants; see col.11 lines 30-45, transmitting true color graphics (sharing region having a root window using a 24 bit true color pixels depth) if all participants can support true color graphics (if clients and server have difference pixel depth then the clients perform shifting; however, if clients and server have same pixel depth clients would not need to perform shifting, and the transmitting is ok) . See Fig.7 col.12 lines 10-52, col.6 lines 55-63.

3. In regard to claims 22, 28, 36, Palmer teaches a method of supporting true color, 24bpp, graphics in a multipoint data conference, further comprising the steps of: mapping true color graphics to closest equivalent in a color palette of a depth determined by the lowest color depth

Art Unit: 2676

supported by any participant; transmitting mapped graphics to all participants. See col.6 lines 43-60.

4. In regard to claims 23, 29, 37, Palmer teaches a method of supporting true color, 24bpp, graphics in a multipoint data conference, wherein the step of mapping comprises the step of mapping the true color graphics to the closest equivalent in a 256 color, 8bpp color palette (by definition color map having 8 bit pixel values containing 256 color, computer desktop encyclopedia). See col.6 lines 55-67.

5. In regard to claims 24, 30, 38, Palmer teaches a method of supporting true color, 24bpp, graphics in a multipoint data conference, wherein the step of mapping comprises the step of mapping the true color graphics to the closest equivalent in a 16 color, 4bpp color palette. See col.6 lines 55-67.

6. In regard to claims 25, 31, 39, Palmer teaches a method of supporting true color, 24bpp, graphics in a multipoint data conference, further comprising the step of reexamining the color depth capabilities of conference participants upon addition and deletion of conference members (the values of pixels on the display depending on the depth value which represents for true-color or non-true-color data, disconnecting or adding members being cared by Palmer, then network will re-determine the depth value every time the network having disconnecting member or adding member). See col.4 lines 17-25.

7. In regard to claim 26, Palmer teaches a method of supporting true color, 24bpp, graphics in a multipoint data conference, further comprising the step of repainting shared information if the color depth capabilities change, (multiple color depths can be used for color map to obtain

Art Unit: 2676

values to be sent to the color guns of the display device, color gun will perform the raster scan for the display, which read on repainting shared information). See col.12 lines 20-31.

8. In regard to claims 27, Palmer teaches a method of supporting true color, 24bpp, graphics in a multipoint data conference, wherein the step of repainting shared information includes the step of transmitting true color graphics if all conference members can support true color graphics (the color map converting pseudo color pixel values into true color format for display on client display device (conference member), and sent pixels values into to color guns on the server system, color gun will perform the raster scan for the display, which read on repainting shared information). See col.12 lines 32-38.

9. In regard to claims 32, 33, 40, 41, Palmer teaches a method of transmitting that includes the steps of transmitting packets of a value color mapping (256 bytes). See col.6 lines 55-67.

10. In regard to claim 34, Palmer teaches a method of transmitting graphics in a multipoint data conference, comprising the steps of: examining color depth capabilities of conference participants; see col.11 lines 30-45; calculating the minimum color depth (lowest depth values) supported by any conference participant; see col.11 lines 38- 53; and transmitting graphics (sharing region having a root window using a 24 bit true color pixels depth) at the minimum color depth supported by any conference participant to all conference participants. See col.6 lines 55-63.

Response to Arguments

11. Applicant's arguments filed on 07/12/2004, have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Art Unit: 2676

Applicant argues that the prior art does not teach “transmitting true color graphic if all participants can support true color graphic”. However, examiner respectfully disagrees with the argument because on Fig.1, Fig.7, col.12 lines 10-52, Palmer teaches transmission of graphic information between client and server, and if client and server support true color client would not need to shift the pixel depth if it is not necessary.

Applicant argues that the prior art does not teach “ mapping true color graphics to closest equivalent in a color palette of a depth determined by the lowest color depth supported by any participant”, by meaning “lowest color depth support by any participant” which read on any client or server supporting lowest color depth. Therefore, col.11 lines 38-52, Palmer teaches defining lowest true color pixel depth for comparing to a predetermine value in order to perform color mapping by server.

Applicant argues that the prior art does not teach “re-examining the color depth capabilities of conference participants upon addition and deletion of conference members.” However, examiner respectfully disagrees with the argument because on col.4 lines 17-24, Palmer teaches additional clients can be connected to the share region, server application can disconnect any and all clients from a shared region at any time which read on re-examining the color depth capabilities of conference participants upon addition and deletion of conference members.

Applicant argues that the prior art does not teach “specifying color depth in drawing order packets identifying the color depth for which these packets were generated”. However, examiner respectfully disagrees with the argument because on col.8 lines 40-45, Palmer teaches client receives messages from interface to the network layer protocol (TCP/IP protocol), according to

Art Unit: 2676

TCP regulation, messages send out in packets; therefore, color depth is identified within packet order.

Applicant argues that the prior art does not teach “calculating the minimum color depth supported by any conference participant; and transmitting graphics at the minimum color depth support by any conference participant”. However, examiner respectfully disagrees with the argument because on col.11 lines 35-52, Palm teaches defining lowest color depth which read on calculating minimum color depth; accordingly, if the server pixel depth less than the predetermined value client will then use color map to display the pseudo color pixel values received from server which read on transmitting graphics at the minimum color depth support by any conference participant.

For these reasons, the rejections are maintained.

12. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2676

Conclusion

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Tam D. Tran** whose telephone number is **703-305-4196**. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-FRI from 8:30 – 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Matthew Bella** can be reached on **703-308-6829**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

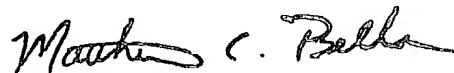
Hand-delivered response should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Tam Tran

TT
Examiner

Art unit 2676



MATTHEW C. BELLA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600